



BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

Date: March 16, 2023

Time: 4:30 PM

Location: Norwell Water Dept.
345 Main Street, Norwell

Present: Fred St. Ours, Peter Dillon, Steve Ivas, Howard Tufts & Water Superintendent Jason Federico

Prepared by: Donna Snow

Meeting Minutes from 3/9/23:

Jason Federico will make a few revisions to his meeting minutes and will have them ready for the first meeting in April.

Discuss Rules and Regulations:

Jason Federico asked the Board if the Rules and Regulations should remain under the Town Bylaws or if they preferred to have them posted on the Water Department page. The town clerk advised there is a cost to edit them. Jason Federico will edit the rules and regulations so they can be posted to the water department's page. The board discussed if there are any circumstances to which unmetered water would be allowed. Jason Federico does not want to allow this; he advised putting a meter in immediately. Fred St. Ours explained sometimes construction on a new site will call for water and we do not want to hold up construction. Peter Dillon motioned to remove the current regulations off the Town's page, Fred St. Ours seconded, and all in favor at 4:55pm. Jason Federico will include the recently changed water rates in the Rules & Regulations. Additional changes to the rules and regulations will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Discuss Irrigation Restrictions:

The Board discussed if future connections should be restricted for irrigation. This would apply to any new service connection. Both Fred St. Ours and Peter Dillon feel this would require a conversation with the Planning Board. Fred St. Ours feels strongly this will be in the water departments best interest, but Jason Federico should invite Planning to a meeting with the Water Department.

Budget:

Jason Federico explained revisions were made as discussed at the last meeting.

PFAS Results:

Washington Street results were shared and Jason Federico asked the Board for permission to do more PFAS testing. Peter Dillon mentioned Jacobs Pond should be sampled again. Peter Dillon had specific locations that he suggested to sample for PFAS. Fred St. Ours agreed with more education, confidence can be restored for drinking town water. The Board discussed all the foods that people are eating which have PFAS contamination, but people are not as informed when it comes to food or products with PFAS.

Well Exploration Plans: Jason Federico advised they are on schedule for drilling, he will walk the site with Peter Dillon.

Unanticipated Items

Hornstra Farm: Fred St. Ours will follow up relative to recent town water usage.

Backflow Fees: The Board agreed to charge \$25 as a late fee on backflow invoices.

Conservation: The Grove Street trails were discussed with the Board; Will Saunders is working to get everything sorted out. Jason Federico explained a 400-foot radius protects the well. Jason Federico will pull deeds on the parcels in question. The Board is fine with trails being used for passive recreation.

Equipment: Jason Federico discussed a piece of equipment (GPR) that is not currently being used, Fred St. Ours suggested they sell it. Jason Federico will be adding a table/chair to the shop so the staff can have lunch and for future in-house training classes.

Driveway Modification: Ilana Quirk inquired about driveway paving; Jason Federico explained the state requirements define how much of an impervious surface you can have. A driveway is being expanded across from Stop and Shop. Peter Dillon suggested adding a swale to meet the requirements.

New Hire: Jason Federico selected a new hire for water mechanic trainee: Eric Gorman. He is a Norwell resident who had worked as an auto mechanic.

Fred St. Ours made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:47 PM, seconded by Peter Dillon.

Accepted:  Date: 4/6/23